

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

MAY 27, 1969

1. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of March 24 and 25, 1969. (2)
2. Announce dates of June Commission Meeting to be held in Alexandria. (2)
3. Approval for Director Hoffpauer to sign contracts and accept contracts which were approved while Dr. Leslie L. Glasgow was Director (2)
4. Approval for Pan American to install an access road to a proposed well site on State Lease 4080, Well No. 4. (3)
5. Approval for Texas Pipeline Company to install a line adjacent to existing lines on Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area. (4)
6. Closure of Salvador and Pointe au Chien Game Management Areas at dark, and having the areas open to the public only during day. (5)
7. Adoption of resolution supporting legislation on protecting endangered species (alligator bill). (6)
8. Dr. T. B. Ford reported on the shrimping season. (8)
9. Report on 1969 Fiscal State Legislative Session. (8) (20)
10. Commission approval to have Commission attorney appeal the Mares Alligator Case. (10)

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MAY 27, 1969

The regular monthly meetings of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission were held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on Monday and Tuesday, May 27 and 28, 1969.

Monday's meeting consisted of conferences with the Division Chiefs and the preparation of the agenda for the Tuesday meeting. Monday's meeting was an informal staff meeting, held in the Director's Office, at 2:00 P.M.

The formal public meeting was held on Tuesday, May 27, 1969, at 10: 00 A.M., in Room 226 of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission Building, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Members present at both meetings were:

Jerry G. Jones, Chairman

H. Clay Wright, Vice-Chairman

Clarence A. Guidry

Hobson Norris

Jimmie Thompson

James L. Winfree

ABSENT: NONE

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. by stating that the first order of business on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meetings of the Commission held on March 24 and 25, 1969.

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mr. Wright, and unanimously adopted, the reading of the minutes of the meetings of March 24 and 25, 1969, were dispensed with and approved as previously submitted to the Commission.

Chairman Jones announced that the next monthly meeting would be held in Alexandria, Louisiana, on Friday, June 20, 1969. He further stated that the dedication of the new facilities on the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area will take place on the day before the public meeting on June 19th on the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area at the site of the new headquarter facility. The regular annual public hearing on seasons and bag limits will be held immediately following the monthly Commission meeting, June 20, 1969, and will continue through Saturday, June 21st.

Chairman Jones then recognized Mr. Joe L. Herring to the floor for the next item.

Mr. Herring explained that between entering and completion of various Commission contracts, the Commission has appointed a new Director, Clark M. Hoffpauer. When the contracts were originally signed, Dr. Leslie L. Glasgow was the Director who signed said document. Mr. Herring therefore

requested Commission approval granting authorization to Clark M. Hoffpauer to sign and accept contracts that were approved while Dr. Glasgow was Director. An example of this situation is the District VII Baton Rouge Office addition, construction of boat launching ramps, etc.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Kyle, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant approval to Director Clark M. Hoffpauer to sign contracts and accept contracts which were approved by said Commission during the tenure of the former Director, Dr. Leslie L. Glasgow. Said contract situation particularly pertain to the Opelousas District Office and Baton Rouge Office additions, construction of boat launching ramps, maintenance and repair contracts, etc.

Chairman Jones then called on Mr. Allan Ensminger for the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Ensminger explained to the Commission that a request had been received from Pan American to install an access road to a proposed well site on the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Ensminger said the proposal had been examined and found to be in order, provided said company adheres to certain terms and conditions as stipulated in the agreement.

On motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Norris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Pan American Petroleum Company to install an access road to their proposed well site on State Lease 4080, Well No. 4, located on the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. Said permission is hereby granted provided said company shall agree to adhere to certain terms and conditions stipulated in the agreement, which shall be binding upon said company for the protection and benefit of the wildlife and fisheries resources in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Ensminger continued by telling the Commission of the Texas Pipeline Company request to install a line adjacent to their existing lines on the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Ensminger stated that the Texas Pipeline Company is desirous of installing a 36 inch line across the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area, with a fee being paid to the Commission per rod based on the size of the pipeline. He further stated since this land is maintained with Marsh Island funds, when the fee is received for this pipeline that it will be credited to the Marsh Island fund.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Texas Pipeline Company to install a line adjacent to their existing line on the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area, with a fee of \$20.00 being charged per rod. All funds received from this project shall be credited to the Marsh Island fund, as said wildlife management area is operated out of this fund. Permission is thereby granted to the Texas Pipeline Company provided they adhere to certain terms and conditions which shall be binding upon said company for the protection and benefit of the wildlife and fisheries resources in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Ensminger then requested Commission authorization to close the Salvador and Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Areas at dark, and have it open only during day light hours. Mr. Ensminger explained that if this regulation is put into effect, it would greatly facilitate the alligator enforcement program. He therefore recommended the areas be open for use by the public from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Norris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Pointe au Chien and Salvador Wildlife Management Areas are located in south Louisiana making the areas suitable for alligator habitat, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has been diligently endeavoring to apprehend alligator poachers in the State,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby close the Salvador and Pointe au Chien Wildlife management Area at dark, in order to facilitate and assist Louisiana's alligator enforcement program. Said Wildlife Management areas shall be open for use by the public from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day.

Chairman Jones then turned to Director Hoffpauer requesting him to explain the alligator bill.

Mr. Hoffpauer told the Commission that there are two bills in Congress relative to the protection of endangered species. Furthermore, he said both of the lists of endangered species are the same and include the American Alligator. Passage of this legislation is most important since the alligator is rapidly disappearing, more particularly in Louisiana. These bills will help the various states, which have an alligator population, to apprehend the poachers

and violators. At present, the alligator season in Louisiana is closed, but still the poachers exist and in stronger numbers than ever. Mr. Hoffpauer explained that with passage of these bills our law enforcement programs would be greatly enhanced, making it twice as difficult for the violator.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Winfree, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the American Alligator population is rapidly disappearing in the State of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, if action is not taken immediately, the American Alligator species will become extinct, needless to say, as well as many other species of animals which are listed on the rare and endangered list, and

WHEREAS, two bills have been introduced into Congress which protect the rare and endangered species from importation into other states, as well as preserve the population of these animals.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as supporting and urging passage of legislation protecting the rare and endangered species, more particularly the American Alligator.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Congressional delegation, the Committee on Merchant Marine Resources, and other interested representatives be notified of this Commission's

action in support of said legislation.

Chairman Jones then recognized Dr. Ted Ford who commented on the current shrimp season.

Dr. Ford explained that the Commission biologists' projection on the growth of the brown shrimp crop was 1.5 mm behind the present average size and the catch and growth rates are good. Dr. Ford explained that on May 25, 1969, which was the latest possible date for the setting of the season, the shrimp were approximately 100 count. He also gave a comparison of the various shrimp sizes found in different areas.

Mr. Thompson complimented Dr. Ford, Dr. St. Amant and other Commission personnel who compiled the technical data for the season recommendation and also complimented the Enforcement Agents for their excellent job. Other Commission members joined Mr. Thompson in his praise.

Chairman Jones then requested Mr. Yancey to inform the Commission of the legislative action regarding the Commission.

Mr. Yancey stated that there have been four bills introduced into the House of Representatives relative to Commission funds and appropriations. These bills encompass a total of \$4.2 million and would appropriate from the conservation fund. They deal with acquisition of land,

construction of public boat launching ramps, improvements to existing wildlife management areas, construction of ponds on the state owned fish hatcheries, as well as entering into various federal projects on a 50-50 cost sharing basis.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, there are four bills which were introduced into the House of Representatives during the 1969 Fiscal Session, and

WHEREAS, said House Bills involved various funds to be appropriated to the projects and programs of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby urgently support and request passage of the House Bills regarding funds to be appropriated for the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission which involve monies for the construction of public boat launching ramps, various water control structures, land acquisition, improvements to existing wildlife management areas, and many other projects which would assist the State and the Commission in improving and preserving natural resources of the State of Louisiana.

Chairman Jones then explained that the Commission was involved in a legal suit which is better known as the Mares Case. This case deals with alligator hides which the Commission confiscated as the dealer was suspected to be in violation. This case is presently in court and the decision handed down was not prossed. Since many of the enforcement agents and other Commission personnel are daily risking their lives to uphold the law in order to protect the law abiding citizen, it is recommended that an order be given to the Commission attorney to appeal this case. In this way, Chairman Jones explained that even if the case is again rendered unfavorably, the Commission would be giving full and loyal support to the Wildlife Agents and other personnel.

On motion of Mr. Winfree, seconded by Mr. Norris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission did confiscate certain alligator hides from Rene Mares, as these hides were believed to have been taken in Louisiana during a closed season, and

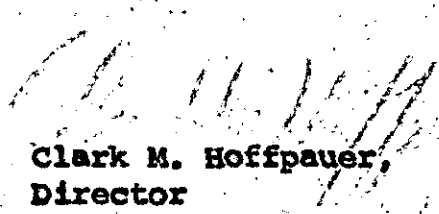
WHEREAS, this case was tried in a court of law with the decision being given as nol pros, and

WHEREAS, day in and day out Wildlife Agents of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission are endeavoring to uphold the law as well as risking their lives in order to protect the wildlife and fisheries resources of the State of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, particular attention has been focused on protecting the American Alligator.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby instruct the Commission attorney to appeal the Mares Alligator Case, in an effort to support the Wildlife Agents to uphold the law.

Chairman Jones asked if there was any further business to come before the Commission; therefore, on motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Winfree, the meeting was adjourned.


Clark M. Hoffpauer,
Director